The Undergraduate.

VOL. IV. MIDDLEBURY, VT., MARCH, 1879. NO. 6.

TO THE SPIRIT OF POETRY.

Why, as the fleeting years go by
Does thy face linger near?
Why beams a light from out thine eye
To sadden, yet to cheer?

O'er all the sunset-lighted scenes
Of youth, dark clouds have rolled;
No face gleams through the dreary waste
Save thine so dear of old.

Why do I feel thy presence when
On Nature's breath I gaze?
And why come throbbing round my heart
These memories of past days?

I feel thee in the beauty of
These autumn days of rest,
And in the silent woodland with
The moonlight on it's breast.

I see thee in the glory bright
That makes the dawning day,
And in the pearly-tinted clouds
That fade and melt away.

I hear thee in the rippling brooks
When murmuring at my feet,
In dreamful hours I see thy form
Of grace, I may not meet.

Oh fair, sweet vision of my youth!
Did we, then, wrong to part?
And can it be, that we misjudged
Those beatings of the heart?

Shall I, oh thou of life a part!
No more that rapture know
I felt when hand in hand we roamed
The vales of long ago?

I stretch my hand to touch thy brow,
Thy angel face hath flown.
The empty winds float where thou wast
And sigh "alone! alone!"

Still 'tis the same, through all this life
Thy form but flits before;
Eluding all my weak attempts
To reach and know thee more.

Why then do'st haunt me, oh fair face
To breed in me regret?
Go, leave me with the busy world;
I'll work—perchance forget.

But no, what do I say? come back,
Come back, nor let me roam
Unguided through the years to come
A wanderer far from home.

Come back, thou art my all in all
As through the dark I grope.
Come back and be my evening light
My weather-gleam of hope.

I. E. LEONARD.

AN EMBRYO ARTIST'S PLEA

FOR DELIVERANCE FROM IGNORANT AND INJUDICIOUS CRITICS.

[A short time previous to the death of my friend Emerald Greene, an artist of no little merit, although not widely known, he handed me the following paper, requesting me to see that it was published after his death, which the poor fellow knew to be approaching and which was doubtless hastened by the sharp attack made by the critics upon his favorite painting, entitled "Could'nt stand the jar;" in which Vesuvius is represented in a state of eruption.]

The artist did well to bid the presumptious cobbler to stick to his last.

It is surprising that people who are the most sensitive to criticism and who in addition are qualified neither by education nor by native talent to offer an intelligent critique upon the work of the humblest artist, should feel at perfect liberty to enter any studio and cut right and left with the utmost disregard both of the feelings of the proprietor and the the most ordinary promptings of courtesy and common sense. A lady who would turn up her nose in high dudgeon if you should venture to take exception to the manner in which her table was ordered, will turn upon you and criticise your picture with the most infernal self-possession, as though it were one of her natural and inalienable rights.

Now all this is well enough, supposing that the critic is able to criticise intelligently; but for a person who knows nothing of artists' methods or motives so to conduct himself is intolerable, as all false assumptions of superiority are likely to be. As a matter of fact ten critics tell the artist only what he already knows where one gives him a new idea. If you would criticise so as not to offend the artist, take great pains, before speaking

of any defect, to find out whether the same fault may be found with all his work.

It is very likely that he had some particular object in view in the production of a given picture, and that for this one thing he has neglected almost everything else. His success in that instance depends upon his attainment of this object; and, until you know what it is, you cannot undertake to criticise without being liable to be thought presumptious. If this definition of the artist's success be not the true one, you must deny success to the black-and-white art; for the very principle upon which this form of art is founded, is that some things, as color, may be neglected as non-essentials in the pursuit of the idea. It is for the omission of these non-essentials that the artist is censured by a host of would be wise ones who are not satisfied unless the production fills every corner of their narrow field of vision, no matter how far it may extend beyond. If an artist can reproduce the spirit of an arbutus by the employment of two leaves and a stick I contend that he is so far successful; unless, indeed, he is drawing for a botany "now in press" or "just ready," when it it his duty to put every bract in its proper place.

The spiritual drawings by Kelly which have appeared from time to time in the Scribner's and St. Nicholas have been severely criticised for their lack of "finish" and disregard of form, by those who are incapable of appreciating them. It is safe to say that it never occurs to one of these critics to ask himself whether these pictures accomplish their end in conveying the impression which the artist desires. Such critics are usually fond of the "dear little baby pictures with such funny hands." If, then, you would criticise so as not to offend, look first at the idea presented and afterwards at the technique; indeed most laymen can afford to neglect the latter altogether; for it is probable that technical defects are far more apparent to the artist than to his critics.

If you have any hints to give which will help to bring out the idea, you need have no fears but that they will be thankfully received; but be careful how you take occasion to air your knowledge lest the sleeve of the artist shake with suppressed laughter.

THE CLAIMS OF REASON.

There belongs to every system of theology certain principles which appeal to the intellect alone, must be seized by the intellect, tested by the intellect, and accepted or rejected by the intellect; and a knowledge of these principles and an intellectual conviction of their truth, are the first requisite to the acceptation of any religion. On the other hand, the first step to the rejection of any religion, is an intellectual disbelief of these same principles.

For instance, if a believer in Christianity should learn that one of his friends had accepted Buddhism, and should resolve to try to recall him from this false belief, what course would he take? He would go to his friend, discuss with him, one by one, the different points of the Buddhist belief, and strive to show him their absurdity and inconsistency; but if his friend, sternly cutting him short, should say that it was a matter beyond the reach of discussion; that he felt within him a divinely given assurance of the truth of his belief; and that for anyone to doubt this was a sin, the voice of all the Christian world would be raised to denounce the bigoted fanatic, because he refused to listen to reason and common sense.

But now suppose that, the next day, there comes to this Christian a man who is in religious doubt, not one who scoffs at Christianity and ridicules its supporters, but one who finds in the religion, principles which he is unable to reconcile with each other, or with the facts of science; suppose he asks the Christian to candidly discuss those principles; what answer does he receive? Does yesterday's upholder of reason act to-day upon the same principle? Does he explain to

the questioner that about which he was in doubt? No; he turns away in scorn and from hundreds of Christian pulpits, rises the cry, "Woe to the presumptious mortal who dares to set limits to the power of God, and measure divine revelation by poor, human reason"—a cry which assumes all the points in dispute, and curses an honest man, because he seeks the truth by the only means at his command.

Now what reason is there for thus exempting the Christian religion from those discussions, to which all others are subjected? The Bible, the book which forms the foundation of the whole Christian religion, appeals to the intellect alone. It must be read, its statements received and interpreted by the intellect, it's different parts studied by themselves, and in their relation to each other. Thus the Christian studies it. He draws his creed from the Bible and supports it by arguments from the same source; he makes use of his reason to disprove the doctrines of all other Christian sects; he permits the introduction of reason to reconcile the different parts of the Bible and to show their harmony with the principles of science. But when the voice of reason is raised against the Bible, and against the principles upon which the Christian religion is founded, the cry is raised against poor, fallible human reason and the attempt made to drown its voice, as though there were danger that the purposes of the Omnipotent Ruler might be overthrown by this poor, weak, human reason.

There are, indeed, liberal minded christians, who do not join in this cry; but they are exceptions, they are men in advance of their times. And in spite of the exceptions, there are thousands upon thousands of christian believers who, though they make use of reason in the support of their belief, and admit it in discussions between the different sects of their own church, utterly refuse to listen to its voice, when it speaks in opposition to their religion.

These men do not doubt the facts of science; and they certainly never harbor a doubt of their religion. Hence the question arises, If they believe that both science and their religion are true, why should they not allow them both full scope? For can they believe that two truths can ever disagree? This difficulty is usually met by the assertion that divine things are so far beyond the grasp of our reason that we can only cause confusion and error by attempting to bring them within our reach; that the Bible was not intended to teach us science and philosophy; but the duties of religion. But these arguments are of no effect. For if some of these divine truths have been divinely presented to our intellect, we have no right to assume that they are beyond its grasp. And though the Bible may be designed for a christian guide alone, yet if it enters upon the province of science, it may fairly be judged by the correctness of its statements; for it is contrary to all our ideas of God, that he should reveal to man an untruth in any form. Disguise it as they may, this rejection of reason involves a belief that one truth may disprove another; and this we cannot believe. Truth may, indeed, present many phases; but they are the phases of the perfect crystal and, gazing in one, we may trace the clear outlines of all the rest. It is only when falsehood creeps in and makes a dark flaw in the clear crystal, that our gaze is darkened; then only do we see one little part instead of the vast whole. Hence, by a comparsion of science and the Bible, we cannot, in the end, be led astray; in spite of occasional error, we must finally reach the truth, whatever that truth may be.

Reason is essential to the religion of mankind. There may be a higher part of religion, a spirit, which is as essential as the intellect. But the earthly form in which this spirit must manifest itself, is that of reason; and as long as we deal with this finite form which is all with which we have power to deal, we must use our finite intellect. And for a man to deny to his opponent the exercise of that God-given power which he himself employs at every step, is an act of bigotry which would better become the Dark Ages than

our boasted century of enlightenment. It is no excuse for this bigot to say that he is sincere and sure of the righteousness of his acts; for never was there bigot for whom the same might not be said. Learn the blood-stained records of bigotry and persecution from those ghastly pages, cull out the fiercest, bloodiest deed, and in the perpetrators of that foul act shall you find those who, of all the world, were best assured that they were striving for the good of man and the purposes of God.

So it is to-day. The spirit, which of old made doubt a sin and unbelief a crime; which counted as nothing the slaughter of thousands to advance its own narrow views; which met every new principle of science or religion with fire and sword, with dungeon and rack; strives to-day, heedless of the past, to stifle with a torrent of denunciation the voice of modern inquiry. But it has been driven by advancing civilization from bloodshed and violence to denunciation and abuse; from physical tortures to the milder weapons of the intellect. And cheered by this sign of progress, we may hope to yet see the day in God's good time, when its foul form shall vanish from our midst; and no longer pollute with its defiling touch the choicest blessings of mankind; when men, at length taught by the past, shall conclude, that when God left the human conscience free and unrestrained, He created no body of men to control it; and when, grown wise through failure, they shall no longer seek to improve upon the perfect works of the Creator.

A PLEA FOR TRUE CANDOR.

It may not be amiss, when the community has been so thoroughly stirred, and the cry of bigotry raised against some peculiarities of belief, to reflect that although the term naturally suggests religious fanaticism, the failing expressed is not confined to the side of religion. In the college world there is a class of students, not deficient in general intelligence, who in their conceit of independent thought, allow themselves while declaiming loudly against religious bigotry, to be carried to the other extreme, with a fate much like that of him who would not lean forward while going up hill.

Such people seldom move singly. In fact, the feeling which prompts their courses as well as the course itself, is generally moulded after the supposed pattern of some outside enthusiast, whose independence they admire, though failing it may be to appreciate the true elements of his position. Reference is not made to prejudice against particular doctrines, or against beliefs in regard to specific acts, for to that students are not particularly liable; but to the question of more importance than any of these—because more comprehensive than them all—the treatment of the whole subject of religion.

Although this is not a plea for religion as a matter of faith or of practice, it is not irrelevant to consider the part something of this, as a subject of thought, must play in the liberal education. It cannot be denied that the student who avoids this must be in the same measure deficient in culture. He is expected to enter the active world feeling that, if not thoroughly conversant with those subjects which engage the attention of the thoughtful men of the world, he is at least prepared by his elementary training in respect of those matters, to watch intelligently the course and progress of discussion, and to pursue such investigations as will enable him to take his part in that discussion. And the more general the agitation, and more profound the thought called forth, the more imperative demand does that subject make upon the students' time and attention. What is there in the whole range of thought so widely discussed, so vitally important, or eductive of so deep and precise thought, as the harmony of science and religion, of reason and revelation; not the *harmonization*, for we care not to *make* such harmony. It is a question of whether they are or are not in harmony of themselves. To remain entirely apart from the contest, in

speech and thought is not conceivable in an intelligent man; to enter absolutely unequipped is perhaps equally so; to go forth with views drawn from the arguments of one side only, is to enter the conflict crippled, having weapons of offence but not of defence. We need not go outside our institution to see indications of a spirit which, given free scope, would have the effect of placing those who indulge in it in just such a position. Their argument reduces to something of this kind: "The candid man must examine the other side of the question in which he is interested, therefore I will examine the opposition to religion!" and this while declaring neutrality! These fond disciples of Aristotle would scorn such a fallacy, *en papier*, though they may be the only ones who do not see it in their own policy.

Some glory-seeker, carried away by his feelings may rise, measuring his lance of straw with those weapons forged from the honesty-tempered wisdom of centuries, and if he be naturally gifted as a "speaker," may achieve a partial success, before an admiring audience. He has never made a special study of theology,—has scorned such waste of time,—but that matters not. Because he takes a position few care to occupy, (not few, however, because thought and courage are lacking,) this class will drink in with avidity his assertions; will laugh with his ridicule, jibe with his sneers, and, unfortunately, think with his reason. To them Ingersoll *was* a bonanza. By them Paine, to scholars long dead except as an upholder of liberty, is resurrected, and they wade through depths of heathenism in quest of *candor!* But men may know all natural science and yet know little of its relation with the science of God. They may revel in objections, but they are not fit judges of the merit of those objections, till they have learned to view them from another standpoint than that to which objection is made. The enthymeme must be corrected. The candid must examine *both* sides of the question in which he is interested; therefore I will examine both sides of a question which must interest me as a future element in the public thought.

Then it is well to read works of merit;—productions of writers themselves candid, a virtue which could hardly have been claimed either by him who would not allow his child to enter a church, or by him who acknowledged that while writing against the New Testament he had not a copy of that volume; for it seems better in this latter case to consider the lack one of candor rather than of common sense, and not works on one side simply; nor is it the part of candor to pit against the mighty warrior of one side the weakling of the other, who, when shorn of his rhetoric and poetry is hardly a fair mark for an ordinary breeze. We must deal candidly with ourselves, with candid men, and honest principles, if we would not have our charges of bigotry rebound upon ourselves, for he is always open to that charge who refuses to *either* side a fair hearing, or in any way places inclination in the scales against reason.

NOTES FROM THE ALUMNI.

Reminiscences of College Life.

BY REV. H. ROOD. D. D.

No. IV.

A Revival in College.—During the latter half of our spring term, there was an interesting revival in the College, in which some twenty or more students were hopefully converted. Among them were four or five of my most interesting and talented classmates. The village was slightly but not strongly affected. No recitations or college exercises were omitted, but they were quiet, solemn, and frequently short. If any student was not prepared for his recitations, as often happened, no questions were asked. The spirit of prayer was strong. Much faithful Christian work was done. The solemn look, the silent tear, the suppressed emotion were often witnessed. Meetings were solemn and deeply affecting. It was plain the Spirit of God was there. One very pious and judicious young man in the Junior class

named Brown, gave himself wholly to the work for three or four weeks. Up to that time no class had passed through Middlebury College, without witnessing a revival. The last six months of my preparatory course, was spent in this village, under circumstances favorable to acquaintance and association. The College was to them like their own offspring. A new class seemed like a new born child. No sooner had it entered than a new and heavier burden of prayer pressed upon their souls. The revivals of those days were simple, earnest, unostentatious, heart-humbling, and life-reforming. They were the work of the Holy Spirit. The instruments were prayer and the inspired Word, with the free and faithful conversation. From them a gentle awe spread out over the community. Objectors were rare. Many not converted were made kinder, better, more honest, and useful citizens.

A Large Fire in the Village.—Fires are common now; they were very uncommon then. I was 22 years old, had resided in some dozen towns and villages, and yet I had not seen a fire of any importance. On a dark, summer night, no moon, the sky overcast with heavy clouds, about one o'clock, suddenly, all the bells in the village rang violently, and the cries of fire! fire! rent the air from every quarter. A glance from the window told the whole story. The large hotel, standing on the highest ground, in the centre of the village, surrounded with a large array of out-buildings, and near to one of the finest and most costly furnished residences of the place, was fully on fire. The glare of the angry, lurid, leaping flames upon the surrounding buildings, and the heavy clouds, was appalling. The gathering was sudden aud universal. There was no fire-company, no engines, hooks, nor ladders. The hotel was some two hundred rods from Otter Creek, the only supply of water. Tutor Allen as the man of all work, of all power in the College or the village. He was early on the spot with a small eight foot pole in his hand. He took in the position at a glance. Two lines must be formed from the fire to the creek, one to pass down empty buckets, the other to pass them up with water. He laid hold of every man and woman placed them in the ranks told them to stand there and call others. The lines were half formed when I and other students reached the spot. He whirled us into line, straightened us with his pole, told us to hold our posts. Above the noise and roar of the flames and the din of a hundred voices he was distinctly heard along the whole line, when he shouted out his final orders, "Every man hold his post; keep the ranks closed; pass the buckets rapidly; it is our only hope."

The fire was now in full blast. The great struggle at the conflagration was on the North side of the hotel,to save the Mattox house, some five or six rods distant. A large amount of water thrown by strong, resolute arms, had long kept the fire in check on that side. Some said we shall save it; others shook their heads. Tutor Allen cried out to them, "Strain every nerve, have courage to the last." At length a heavy gust of wind from the South, (it was a raw and gusty night) blew a broad sheet of leaping flames, and burning debris squarely on to the roof and sides of the Mattox house, already scorching hot. Quicker than I can write it the whole mansion was wrapped in solid flames. The house was lightly constructed inside. It It was said that in 20 minutes from the time the flames struck it, the roof and the whole interior of the building fell in. It certainly was but a very short time. It was now about three o'clock. The morning rays were just beginning to dawn upon us. Tutor Allen passed down the lines dismissing them with many thanks for their faithfulness in the hours of conflict and hope. No lives were lost. About $20,000 were consumed by the flames. Only a small part of the furniture was saved from the hotel owned by a Mr. Hart; but most of the valuables from the Mattox house were rescued. A hasty look at the buring ruins, and a return to our rooms closed for us the scenes of that fearful night.

The Undergraduate.

Published Monthly During the College Year.

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EDITORIAL.

THE winter term closes on the 25th inst. in the midst of the usual equinoxial storm; but for all that we expect to see the usual large audience Tuesday eve, at the Junior Ex. We predict an interesting programme if we can judge the Juniors from their efforts on the college stage for the last three years. We understand that some change is to be made this year—the Juniors simply speak their orations. The Faculty are to furnish music, which we learn is to be of more than ordinary interest, and to make all arrangements for the evening. This will relieve the Juniors of a disagreeable and costly task; and the event will test the wisdom of this return to old customs.

THE Seniors' Kaleidoscope is out at last, and by many fair critics is judged to be equal, at least, to any previous publication of the kind. '79 rejoices in the possession of an artist whose skill has made her pamphlet a decided success. The editorials of the several classes are characteristic and well written, the illustrations are humorous and to the point. One of the most appropriate sentences we noticed was the motto on the title page "Better late than never." The only fault to find is that the demand is greater than the supply.

THE term just closing has not been marked by any striking event which will make it historic. Its unusual quiet contrasts with the opening term of the year. We are glad to see not only in our own college but in many others, the growing sentiment that to be a student one need not be a rowdy. A true gentlemanly spirit is beginning to absorb the mock-dignity of the Senior, the swagger of the Junior, the total depravity of the Soph. and the rowdyism of the Freshman.

There have been very few entertainments in town. The graded school lecture course, Mrs. Hammond's revivalist meetings and a few scattered entertainments from abroad bring us to the end of the list. There have been meetings in the several churches nearly every evening during the winter. The Choral, the Hawthorne Club, skating and coasting parties have furnished profit and pleasure to those whose tastes have turned in those directions.

On the whole we shall look back on this term as one of quiet, hard work, with little to interrupt, with much to give pleasure.

We understand that the students are again agitating the hackneyed question of French in our College course. Much has been said, and we will not attempt to add to what has been so thoroughly discussed and lamented over in our college for many years. The students are unanimous in the belief that they lose much by not having French; and the more they are put off the more abused they naturally feel. '76 came out strong in favor of some change to that effect, but the same attention was paid to their appeals that all other requests to the same purpose have received. It is well known too that there are those among the Faculty who think well of the introduction of the study of this language in our course. The general desire among the students is, that French shall take the place of Latin during Junior Fall. The loss in Latin would be trifling compared to fifty advance lessons in French, which will give one at least a reading knowledge of the language. What objection could be raised against requiring one more term's work in Latin on entering college? Then in two years the Latin history and literature properly pursued could be mastered, leaving Junior fall for French. We trust that a question, about which the students are so united will no longer be ignored by those who have authority.

As we were looking over the admirable edition of the Carmena Collegensia lately issued, and saw the additions of songs from colleges not represented before, the enquiry came to us—why was Middlebury college not represented? Her age and classic standing surely make her worthy of such a position, and the only impediment lies in the ability and zeal of her sons. We should be loath to believe that the first was wanting, and we know that her sons have zeal and enterprise enough, if it were only directed at the proper point. Not to speak of former years, we know many alumni who have graduated within eight or ten years who could write songs that would compare with any collection in the Carmena. There are at present in college men who are quite competent to write songs of a superior order.

After the songs are written the music would be forth coming. We have at present in college more musical talent than we have had for many years; we have a Professor who, we doubt not, would give all the aid in his power to help on the good work.

We call upon all, who desire to see Middlebury take the position she deserves, to send such songs, as they may write, to the Undergraduate. We will set apart a column or so to this work alone. Will not our poets see that it shall be filled every month? We wish very much we could offer a reward for the best song sent in; but as we cannot, we trust that the loyalty of the sons of Middlebury will be a sufficient incentive to aid us in this work.

COMMUNICATIONS.

[The editors do not hold themselves responsible for the sentiments of the communication column.]

Editors of the Undergraduate:

If you will allow me a little space in your communication column, I would like to make a few remarks concerning the conduct of some of our students in the rooms and halls of our domitories. There seems to be a growing habit, among some of our lower classmen especially, of forgetting that they are expected to act as gentlemen, and that there are some of their fellow-students who would like, if they were allowed, to devote some of their time to study. It is rather difficult for a man to put his mind upon a lesson, while the inexpressible harshness and discord of a tin-horn duet, mingled with the notes of some one singing or screeching in dulcet tones, is ringing in his ears. Then again, there is no need of a man's lumbering down stairs like a barrel of stones, unless he is "over the bay," or trying to shatter the glass in the window sashes. During the Fall term, when Freshmen are hardly initiated into the customs of college life and while the Sopho-

mores are earnestly striving to cure them of their faults and teach them their first lessons, we expect that there will be a good deal of bustle and tumult about our buildings. But according to the customs of our usually quiet college, these disturbances cease with the opening of our Winter term. There are those who wish to destroy the old customs it seems, but it would be pleasanter for the majority if the old customs were retained. I do not suppose that persons make these disturbances in our buildings for the express purpose of annoying any one, but nevertheless, the same result follows. A man's room is his castle; but he has no right to make such a bedlam of as to disturb all the castles in his immediate vicinity.

I trust that it will be sufficient simply to call attention to these points and that the next time any one feels like making a big disturbance, and tooting a horn during study hours, he will adjourn to the old tar factory over the hill, where he can be alone in his glory, and can blow and yell to his heart's content, without causing annoyance to any one. JACOB.

Editors of the Undergraduate:

One of the greatest benefits derived from a college course is the manly bearing which we are taught to assume toward our fellow men. Our Professors are expected to check all indications of boyishness in the class-room. Yet for any neglect in attendance we are called up and cross-questioned somewhat in the same manner as when we were stumbling and stammering over the multiplication table. Are we not old enough to decide for ourselves as to what is a good and sufficient excuse?

In the course of a term we have over three hundred exercises. The penalty for an absence from one of these is two demerits. If a man finds it necessary to be absent over seven times, out of this three hundred, a balance is carried over to the next term, and before he knows it a warning is sent to his parents, who imagine the worst, and pile on the agony by cutting short the monthly allowance or by quoting page after page of scripture. Three hundred exercises multiplied by two would give us six hundred, and out of six hundred opportunities for demerit we are allowed fifteen. Oh! marvellous generosity!!

In some of our best colleges recitations are optional. The examinations tell the story; why should casual duties be left undone? Why should we be forbidden to do a kind or courteous act, lest the sum total of our demerits be more than fifteen?

No gentleman likes to creep up to the Professor's desk and whine out a pitiful tale of woe, which he must do, or down comes the admonition.

Editors of the Undergraduate:

I desire to avail myself of your correspondents' column to call attention to the present condition of the College Reading Room. The furniture is in a very dilapidated state, owing to the vigorous efforts of a few Freshmen, who were either brought up to despise such useful articles as chairs, etc., or labor under the delusion that the destruction of college property is one of the traits of a gentleman; the room itself is bleak and cheerless, and to cap the climax, the amount of good readable matter is very small. Now cannot something be done to remedy these defects? It occurs to me that the Faculty, by levying a small tax upon the students, could carpet the floor with matting, tint the walls, furnish some pictures and chairs, and in fine transform the present garret-like room into a pleasant and attractive one, where the students could spend an hour or more every day profitably, comfortably and quietly. The room might then be placed in the hands of a committee composed of one or two members of each class, they to be held responsible for all damage inflicted on the room unless they should bring the culprits to justice. This plan may not be acceptable to all, but I am confident no one will deny that it is high time something was done in this direction. CULUS.

TOWN AND CAMPUS.

Did you vote?

How many of us pay poll tax?

Boys; cure up your colds! The morning exercise is getting to be a terrible ordeal.

We understand that the "Ram" Eh? What? Oh! well! I wont say anything about it if you don't wish me to.

One of the Sophs. says that the formulæ in Calculus are so crooked that his book wont lay still nights.

Middlebury people are promised the pleasure of listening to the Swedish Lady Quartette sometime during May.

The graded school closed its winter term March 7th, without the usual public exercises. The spring term opened the 24th.

Quite a large party from this place attended the opera, Il Trovatore, at Burlington, and report the choicest treat of the season.

A just and righteous retribution has fallen upon the Sophomore class. They found fault with Analytics and are now in the Calculus.

An article entitled "Nominalism" by Prof. Means, has been accepted by a leading philosephical review in London entitled "*The Mind.*"

Thad. Chapman has changed his base for a while, until Gov. Stewart can erect a new and commodious building on the site of the old one.

Books left in the recitation rooms are private property, and to deface them is an act which is certainly unworthy the Students of Middlebury College.

Prof. Means' lecture on "Culture and Refinement" is highly spoken of by all who attended, and "good people all with one accord" place it among the best.

The stone bridge is climbing up into the near future. At the town meeting, March 4, definite steps were taken for ascertaining the exact cost of a suitable structure.

There are several bumps on the heads of some of the lower classmen, which really need developing. One is respect for their superiors and the other is reverence for grey hairs.

When the reformed Sailor told how he drank eighteen schooners of lager, he made a mistake. Several thought he meant eighteen ship-loads and his influence was gone.

Stupid Freshman.—"What does "viz" stand for?

Wise Freshman.—Why! it means "that is; v stands for "that" and i-z is—that is.

Owing to a mistake in regard to the section of the statute law of the State, the Undergraduate Association will have to make out a new set of papers to procure their incorporation.

Gilmore's band occupied the town hall at Rutland, Thursday evening, March 13. Excursion prices were offered by the railroad companies and Middlebury contributed a portion of the audience.

Scene in class room.—Prof., "Gentlemen, if you don't spend less time on euchre and more on German, Mrs. Hammond will get after you and burn you all up." Hilarious laughter from the victims.

The Hawthorne Club read George Eliot's Spanish Gypsy, at Mrs. Fletcher's, March 6th. The next meeting was at Miss Helen Tupper's March 21st, where the works of Richard Dana were read.

One of the boys gazed at Tooty as he was snoring sweetly in the big chair and suddenly burst out with the ejaculation, "I wish my life and character was as pure and free from guilt as that dog's." Chorus, He! He!

The Chi Psi Quintette Blub, assisted by Miss Clara Randle and Miss Sue Sheldon, gave a concert at New Haven, Monday evening, March 3d. Frequent *encores* showed the keen appreciation of the audience. We hope to hear them in town before long.

Mr. Harry Dorr's poem "The Old Hall," has been quoted from the Undergraduate by several leading papers. His sonnets "April" and "December" were reprinted in the Rutland *Herald.* They are gems and worthy of all the praise which their author is receiving.

All nature seems to conspire against the poor students. She not only sends down her most disagreeable storms just before recitations, but seems also to have taken a solemn vow that nothing in the shape of respectable walks shall exist between the college and the high school.

We understand that an eight hundred dollar organ is to be placed in the chapel next term and that Prof. Higley is to favor us with a voluntary each morning. No better method of preventing tardiness could have been found, and we imag-

ine the old adage will be verified, "Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast."

The Senior valedictory on the college stage fell this year to Whipple, who did it up in handsome shape amid the cheers of the audience.

The Sophs were admonished the other morning by the Faculty against letting loose their ram on Junior Ex. evening. Did you ever hear the likes?

A dramatic association has been formed in College, which will bring out two plays next term for the benefit of the proposed College Organ.

We understand that the Adelphi Exhibition which was delayed last term will come off sometime in May. The usual drama will be omitted.

A Baptist church is being started here. Meetings are held every Sunday and Wednesday evenings, and the undertaking promises to be a success.

Prof. Higley was appointed first committee man at the Town meeting, on Tuesday. James M. Slade and Rufus Wainwright were elected as members of the prudential committee.

The Kaleidoscope is out and is very neat. The cuts by J. W. Chapman are excellent, and altogether the issue is the best we have ever had. They are on sale at E. R. Brainerd's room.

Tickets for Joseph Cook's lecture on "Ultimate America," advertised for March 26th, in Burlington, are being sold in Middlebury. Half-fare tickets and a return train the same night are the inducements held out.

Predictions are already beginning to be made in regard to the coming Freshman class experience has shown the folly of putting the figures too high. However a class of twenty or more may be confidentially expected.

The Freshman class perpetrated an excellent joke on Monday, by cutting geometry. All the joined in the bolt except one. The Faculty reciprocated on Tuesday morning, with eighteen demerits apiece for them and a letter to each one's parents.

The farmers of this vicinity must rejoice that college vacation comes during sugaring time, for there is no limit to undergraduate possibilities in that direction. The venerable "sugardays," when all who cut were expelled, have passed away much to the delight of the Faculty and the sugar-makers.

We are glad to report an energetic attempt towards procuring a gymnnsium. Some one has sawed off the round sticks of wood and brought in the old cannon ball for a bowling alley. We dare not make public, at present, the location of the alley as all the arrangements for renting it for that purpose have not been completed.

Telegraphy is contagious. It is going through the college like the measles in a large family. A company has been formed and eight instruments are already in operation. Most of the operators can send the message "Have you got your lesson," but the word "Yes" has been over the wires but once, and that was in answer to the question "Will you cut this afternoon?"

The Professor asks the student who is reciting in Greek Testament why Paul and James took the front seats in the synagogue. Student replies, "I suppose the back seats were full." "Sufficient," exclaimed the Professor, "The next man may answer the question." Next man gives it as his opinion that Paul and James were under conviction. Class collapse and Prof. passes on to the next verse.

The evening meetings that have been held in the Congregational church for the last month or so have been largely attended. Rev. Mr. Johnson of Rutland, preached several evenings in succession. Rev. Mr. Knowlton of New Haven, Rev. Mr. Hall of Pittsford and Rev. Mr. Wilder of Brandon, have each preached during the past few weeks. Gov. Stewart is to speak next Wednesday evening.

During the late coal famine in this town, the bin of our landlady became empty. She gave orders for replenishing it, but unfortunately went to church the same afternoon and the bin was filled in her absence. She shivered and shook for two days, thinking it would be useless to order again if there was no coal in town, when by accident it was discovered that the bin was full. There might be a moral "Don't go to church," but we mustn't say so.

Isn't our reading room luxurious? No? Why shouldn't it be a little more so then? We haven't a whole chair and probably wont have until some are placed there for which we can have some respect. Two or three strips of matting, a few spittoons, and good order would make it an ex-

ceedingly pleasant place to go to. An entertainment of some kind could be given in the chapel, the proceeds of which would buy quite a number of the necessary articles.

At half-past two o'clock last Monday morning, a Freshman arose, donned his habiliments, crept steathily down the stairs and began to knock vigorously at a classmate's door. The Freshman within having rubbed his sleepy eyes open, slipped out of his own warm cot, opened the door and was met with the query, "Say! old man; is it going to be a pleasant day?" The caller was answered with a few appropriate words, after which the door was carefully closed and he was left to rout out another classmate from whom he asked the time. There is no law against such things, but in college; *Cave* coal hod!

The Middlebury *Register* reports as follows a wedding that many of our readers may be interested in: "The wedding of Mr. F. G. Swinington and Miss Lizzie Lamb took place at half-past eleven o'clock Thursday morning, the ceremony being performed at the Congregational church. The announcement of the intended event drew together a large number to witness it, and the galleries of the church were full, while the body of the church showed a large array, many of whom were friends of the parties from other places. Rev.Mr.Hooker officiated. The ceremony was performed in simple style, there being neither bridesmaids nor groomsmen. The bride was pronounced "just lovely," being dressed in a plum colored silk suit and drab felt hat with corresponding trimmings, the effect being one of exquisite taste. The ushers were Mr. Arthur Lamb of Vergennes, a brother of the bride, and Mr. Chas. M. Wilds of Burlington. Prof. Higley presided at the organ, and was happy in his musical selections. After the ceremony the "happy pair" were driven to the depot, where they took the train for Rutland, which is to be their future home. Thus has departed from us the acknowledged belle of our village, and many there are who owe the lucky man a grudge for taking away one who was the life of our social occasions and who will be much missed in the society of this place. Mr. Swinington since his graduation from Middlebury College, has pursued a course of legal study and has been admitted to the bar in Rutland county. He is a young man of acknowledged ability, and gives every promise of success in his profession. The best wishes of many friends will go with them both."

PERSONALS.

'19. The *Vermont Chronicle* of March 8th has the first of an interesting series of papers on "God's Designs Respecting Woman," by Rev. H. Rood, D. D., of Westfield, N. Y.

'35. Theodore Gay, M. D., of Malone, N. Y., is an U. S. Examining Surgeon.

'50. The Lake Shore Ass'n met in Cleveland, O., March 4. Prof. H. Mead of Oberlin, read an excellent paper on "The Pulpit as a test of Philosophical Theories."

'51. Rev. S. W. Boardman, D. D., for fifteen years pastor of the Second Presbyterian church of Auburn, N. Y., and formerly a professor in Middlebury College, accepts a unanimous call to the first church in Sterling, Ill.

'52. An interesting letter to Rev. Dr. Wickham from Rev. G. C. Knapp of '52, a missionary stationed at Bitlis, Turkey, is printed in the Vermont *Chronicle* of March 15th. In twenty years his congregation has increased from four to three hundred. He has sent his two sons to this country to be educated at Auburndale, Mass.

'55. The first church of Amherst, Mass., February 17th voted unanimously to call Rev. E. P. Hooker, of Middlebury, Vt.—*Congregationalist.* This has not been verified, and Rev. Mr. Hooker is expected to remain in Middlebury.

'56. Prof. Mead of Andover Theological Seminary, was present February 20th, at a gathering of clergymen and laymen assembled at the residence of Mr. Samuel D. Warren of Boston, to discuss the "Revision of the Bible."

'59. A council, lately convened to consider the resignation of Rev. M. L. Severance of Orwell, recommended him to withdraw it.

'60. The Rutland Association of Ministers met February 11th and 12th. An essay was read by Rev. J. K. Williams upon "Ministerial Duty as to Education."

'60. On the 28th day of Feb., Mr. C. M. Hollis of this city consummated a purchase amounting to about thirteen thousand dollars, the greater part of the purchase consisting of Linn County lands and embracing farms in Grant, Spring Grove, Boulder and Marion townships. This recent acquisition of farms with the estate formerly owned by Mr. Hollis, makes him one of the heaviest land owners in the county. Mr. H. has been very largely engaged in the real estate business here for the past twelve years, and has an

abiding faith in value of Linn County lands, and makes his faith manifested by investing largely therein.—*Marion* (Iowa) *Register.*

'62. Col. L. E. Knapp was elected town clerk March 4.

'62. N. F. Rider was in town a few days ago. He is in business in New York city.

'64. Prof. Ezra Brainerd was re-elected town superintendent of schools March 4th. He preached in Wallingford March 7th.

'67 '68. D. N. Burke and P. Burke were in town last week. Their father was buried Wednesday morning, the 12th inst.

'68. Prof. E. H. Higley gave his lecture entitled the "Artful Dodger," in the Baptist church in Addison, Friday evening, March 7th.

'71. Hon. A Barton Hepburn, member of the New York State Assembly, has recently introduced a very important bill for the re-apportionment of the assembly districts of the State, which has already been admitted to a third reading, and will doubtless become law. It gives New York city an increase of representation and cuts down the number from the rural districts, by reason of which the democrats will rejoice.

'71. F. M. Peck is sick with consumption at his residence at Madrid Springs, N. Y.

'71. Prof. W. W. Thompson is principal of a flourishing academy at Amsterdam, N. Y.

'71. Rev. G. P. Hawley is pastor of the Second Presbyterian church at Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

'72. Rev. H. M. Ladd of Walton, N. Y., is delivering interesting and instructive lectures on "Turkey" and other subjects to his people and neighboring congregations, and illustrates them with a very powerful sciopticon.—*Congregationalist.*

'73. Under the pastorate of Rev. George W. Brooks, Woonsocket, R, I., during the first year and half, twenty-eight have been added to the membership, and the congregation increased threefold.—*Congregationalist.*

'73. Rev. C. N. Brainerd of South Dennis, Mass., has asked a dismission, the society being unable to pay the salary. A council advised him to remain as the salary would probably be forthcoming.

'74. It is reported that Clayton Turrill is soon to take a position on the editorial staff of the Burlington *Free Press.*

'75. Married in the Congregational church, Middlebury, February 20, F. G. Swinnington and Miss Lizzie Lamb. For particulars see "Town and Campus."

'76. C. M. Wilds was in town a few days ago.

'76. Edward Dana was in town the other day.

'77. Charley Warner has returned from Bellevue Hospital, where he has been studying through the winter, and is continuing his studies with his father at Port Henry, N. Y. He was in town the other day.

'78. Fremont Hamilton is soon to enter the Burlington Medical College.

'78 Beeman Academy of New Haven, W. J. Fish, Principal, closed March 7th, for a vacation of two weeks.

'78. J. C. Stapleton has finished a successful term's work in a winter school in Rutland. He is stopping at Middlebury for the present.

'78. Don P. Hardy is meeting with flattering success in teaching at Owasco, N. Y. He lately read a paper, before the teachers association, which has been published in the county paper.

'80. Will Sheldon formerly of '80 has returned from Bellevue Hospital, N. Y., and is studying medicine with Dr. Eddy of Middlebury.

'80. N. W. Smith, formerly of '80, represented the Williams chapter at the meeting of the New England alumni of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, held in Boston February 25th.—*Athenæum.*

CONTENTS OF THE APRIL ATLANTIC:

Easter Hymns from Old Cloister, Frank Forcroft; Irene the Misionary, I—V; The Fool's Prayer; The Indian Territory, Theodore P. Jenness; New York Theatres; The Saga of the Quern-Stones, Alice William Brotherton; The Pension Beaurepas, Henry James, Jr.; A Day in Colorado, Mary Mapes Dodge; New Lives of the Old Masters, Henry Van Brunt; A Workingman's Word on Over-Production, Frank Richards; The Return of the Native, and other Novels; Living in London, R. G. White; The Burial of the Past, H. W. Longfellow; Richard Henry Dana, Julius H. Ward, The Washington Monument and Mr. Story's Design, An Architect; The Contributor's Club; Recent Literature; Education; The New York Cathedral Again.

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Announcements for 1878-9.

Among the attractions for the coming year are the following:

"HAWORTH'S," a serial novel, by Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, author of "That Lass o' Lowrie's." The scene of Mrs. Burnett's new novel is laid in Lancashire; the hero is a young inventor of American birth. "Haworth's" is the longest story Mrs. Burnett has yet written. It will run through twelve numbers of the Monthly, beginning with November, 1878, and will be profusely illustrated.

FALCONBERG, a serial novel, by H. H. Boyesen, author of "Gunnar," "The Man who Lost his Name," &c. In this romance, the author graphically describes the paculiarities of Norse immigrant life in a Western settlement.

A Story of New Orleans, by George W. Cable, to be begun on the conclusion of "Falconberg." This story will exhibit the state of society in Creole Louisiana about the years 1803-4-5, the time of the cession, and a period bearing a remarkable likeness to the present reconstruction period.

Portraits of American Poets.—This series (begun in August with the portrait of Bryant) will be continued, that of Longfellow appearing in November. These portraits are drawn from life by Wyatt Eaton and engraved by T. Cole. They will be printed separately on tinted paper, as frontispieces of four different numbers. Illustrated sketches of the lives of the poets will accompany these portraits.

Studies in the Sierras—A series of papers (mostly illustrated) by John Muir, the California naturalist. The most graphic and picturesque and at the same time, exact and trustworthy studies of "The California Alps" that have yet been made. The series will sketch the California Passes, Lakes, Wind Storms and Forests.

A New View of Brazil.—Mr. Herbert H. Smith, of Cornell University, a companion of the late Prof. Hartt, is now in Brazil, with Mr. J. Wells Champney (the artist who accompanied Mr. Edward King in his tour through "The Great South,") preparing for Scribner a series of papers on the present condition,—the cities, rivers and resources of the great empire of South America.

The "Johnny Reb" Papers, by an "ex-Confederate" soldier, will be among the raciest contributions to Scribner during the coming year. They are written and illustrated by Mr. Allen C. Redwood, of Baltimore. The first of the series "Johnny Reb at Play," appears in the November number.

The Leading European Universities.—We are now having prepared for Scribner, articles on the leading Universities of Europe. They will be written by an American college professor, Mr. H. H. Boyesen, of Cornell (author of "Falconberg," &c.)and will include sketches of the leading men in each of the most important Universities of Great Britain and the continent.

Among the additional series of papers to appear may be mentioned those on How Shall we Spell (two papers by Prof. Lounsbury), The New South, Lawn-Planting for Small Places (by Samuel Parsons of Flushing), Canada of To-Day, American Art and Artists, American Archæology, Modern Inventors; also, Papers of Travel, History, Physical Science, Studies in Literature, Political and Social Science, Stories, Poems; "Topics of the Time," by Dr. J. G. Holland; record of New Inventions and Mechanical Improvements; Papers on Education, Decoration, &c; Book Reviews; fresh bits of Wit and Humor, &c., &c.

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